

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

For: SCANNING OPTICAL APPARATUS)

Examiner: D. Schuberg

MANABU KATO

35.C11250 CI

Group Art Unit:

Appln. No.: 08/951,635

Filed: October 17, 1997

March 16, 2000

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Amdt U. Meluller 3/23/W

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 13-60 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

Please add claims 61-72 as follows: